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THE CHINESE
EXCLUSION ACT.

One of the big questions which is agitating this country at the present time is the Chinese exclusion act, and the effect its rigid enforcement has now and may have in the future, on American commerce and trade in China. The exportation of cotton and cotton goods to China has grown from almost nothing to \$40,000,000 in a few years. Other lines of exports to the celestial kingdom have shown very large gains. The American manufacturer is clamoring for an open door to the trade of China. The American manufacturer has always been selfish and in most instances, been ready to sacrifice the good of the people to his own profit and selfish ends. It matters little to the manufacturer of cotton goods in New England or the south if the Pacific coast and adjacent territory is overrun with cheap Chinese coolies, the lowest strata of Chinese life, if he can find a ready and a profitable market for a few more millions of dollars of cotton goods and other products of his shops. The cry for more liberal immigration laws for the Chinese comes wholly from the manufacturers. The people of the Pacific coast don't want the Chinaman at any price. He is a menace to this country and his very presence exerts a contaminating influence. It is impossible for him to amalgamate with the people of this country. He can not become a citizen and he has no desire to make this land of the free his home and reside here permanently. Personally he is as objectionable as the negro of the south and if we must have cheap labor let us give the negro a chance. We have him with us and while he is not as skillful as the Chinaman or as industrious, he is by far the best cheap laborer in the world.

The Chinese exclusion act has been in operation for more than twenty years. At the time of its passage a perfect horde of orientals were streaming into this country, overrunning the Pacific coast states, and drifting far back into the interior. The exclusion act stopped this unholy invasion at once and the flow of Chinamen began to go the other way. There were at that time more than a quarter of a million Chinamen in the United States. During these twenty years this number has been on the gradual decline. Death has thinned the ranks of the yellow skinned sons of the east and a large proportion of the Chinamen who were in this country have made their "stake" and returned to China to remain. In San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle the gradual decrease in the number of Chinese has been most notable. It is doubtful if at the present time there are 50,000 Chinese in the entire country, and the country will be infinitely better off when these, too, "have folded their tents, like the Arabs, and silently stolen away."

The manufacturers, for years, have kept an outrageous tariff on all classes of manufactured goods by their cry of "protection to American labor," and they have filched millions of dollars from the pockets of the people under the guise of a tariff to enrich their own. It matters not to them how heavy the burden on the shoulders of the people, just so they get their pound of flesh. Now they would throw wide open the doors to the Chinese in order to get a few more dollars of trade.

We very much mistake the sentiment of the American people if they cater to such a cry or agree to admit the Chinaman on any terms. Let the door remain closed and barred to the celestial of the east forever and if more stringent regulations were adopted in regard to immigrants from other countries it would be better and not worse for the country.

HENRY WATTERSON
ON SOCIALISM.

In one of his letters from Europe to the Courier-Journal, Henry Watterson has the following to say concerning socialism, which is beginning to

show itself in America, and had its birth in Germany: "It is a pipe-dream of the German metaphysician. Utopia would indeed be a good place to live in except for the climate and the population. The world may come to it a little ahead of the millennium perhaps; but if it does, human nature will have to hump itself. Even among the European socialists there are distinctions and degrees. We have the 'right center' and the 'left center,' the moderates and the radicals. These show themselves in all the legislative bodies, making it easy for the government to carry its point, though now and again a minister goes out and another comes in, perhaps to throw dust in the eyes of history and make the people believe that they are not in total disregard among the ruling powers.

"Clearly that is the best government which governs least. Yet the whole trend with us in America seems to be more government. Everywhere, officials are multiplying. Officialism is on the ascending scale of municipal and state development. Each succeeding party trust wants additional places for its workers. Hence much of the clamor for public ownership. Who cares for the consequence? In the end it is the taxpayers who pay for the dance, and except on rare occasions, it is hard to arouse and unite the taxpayers upon any remedial scheme which will hold together long enough for any real test. Too often the competing alternatives involve a choice 'twixt twiddle-dum and twiddle-dee, the nearest jumping from the firepan into the fire, and vice versa.

"In Germany the taxpayers look closely after the taxes. It must be allowed that the state railway is very well managed. But there is all the difference in the world between a centralized power like that exercised by the imperial government and that of a commission in the United States, either state or national, subject to the whimsies of public opinion and spread over a territory bigger than all of Europe.

"Boodle politics does not exist in Germany. The scandals are social, not political. The higher they reach the less likely they are to come to the surface. Aristocracy in Germany is real. It means exalted fellow ship and close communion. But under the rule of a man like the kaiser, the social fabric is kept well in bounds, and class collisions are too infrequent and inconsequential to be heard by the outer world."

WILL TALK IT OVER.

Now that both Japan and Russia have agreed to send their plenipotentiaries to Washington to discuss terms of peace early in the month of August it may be taken as an acknowledgement by Russia that it is thoroughly licked by Japan. If there was any possible hope for Russia to even win a single victory in the near future the Czar would never consent to talk of peace with Japan.

What the peace conference will result in no one can tell, but of one thing the country may be assured, and that is that Japan will get all that was contended for by that country before the war began and more.

As to the amount of indemnity Japan will ask for there seems to be no authoritative statement, but the sum will no doubt about equal what the war has cost Japan when taken with the boats and other property captured during the conflict.

What Japan will watch for closer than anything else will be for insincerity on the part of Russia in the settlement to be made. Japan has good reason to distrust the integrity of Russia in any agreement reached. Had Russia kept her agreement concerning Manchuria made at the end of the Japanese and China war, the present war would never have been fought.

The little brown men will go into the peace conference with a full knowledge of the Russians, so far as keeping agreements solemnly made are concerned.

NAILING A LIE.
The Albuquerque Citizen reports that the joint statehood league has received a big order from Kingman for joint statehood badges, and infers from this that the opposition to joint statehood in Mohave county is fading away. This is not so. There are not three joint statehood advocates in Mohave county.—Mohave County Miner.

After letting the railroads off with the same low assessment they have been paying taxes on for years in this territory, the territorial board of equalization now proposes, according to reports, to raise the mining men and cattlemen of the territory "out of their boots," as it were. If the territorial board really desires to put more money in the treasury from the big corporations they overlooked a splendid place to begin when they assessed the railroads.

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